

QUALITY SERVICES, QUALITY PEOPLE

MAKING OUR COMMUNITY A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE

By Mayor Gene Winstead

WHEN TIMES GET TOUGH, many citizens rely more heavily on City services and programs. During these difficult economic times, the City continues to focus on providing quality services to the community, including Police, Fire, Public Works, Human Services and Parks and Recreation services for a cost of \$65.17 per month for the owner of a median-priced, single-family home.

Bloomington is able to maintain its key services due to strong financial planning, but the City also relies on the skills and dedication of the people it employs to deliver both essential and quality of life services. These people, who share a common goal of service excellence, are the backbone of the City. Their commitment to quality service can be found everywhere, every day throughout our community.

Just last May, I had the privilege of recognizing the accomplishments of **Parkkeeper Steve Ferguson**, below, who was presented with the Charles V.



Honchell Public Works Employee of the Year Award. Ferguson has been with the City for more than 23 years, during which time he has worn many different hats, including snow plow operator and hockey and skating rinks worker. Most notably, Ferguson is responsible for maintaining the mechanicals at Bloomington Aquatic Center. Ferguson makes sure the pool is safe, clean and always in operation during the season. For many residents who stayed close to home this summer, the pool was an oasis that provided hours of exercise and fun.

Also in May, **Police Officer Ben Calhoun**, right, was awarded the 2009 Optimist Club’s Officer of the Year award. This is the 18th year that the Optimist Club has honored a member of the Bloomington Police Department (BPD) during Respect for Law Week. Officer Calhoun, who has served as a Field Training Officer and SWAT team member, has been with the BPD since 2001. He is known for his exceptional work ethic and positive attitude.

Environmental Health recently received the Food and Drug Administration’s Group Recognition Award at its 14th annual awards ceremony. Environmental Health employees were honored for their hard work on the 2008 Republican National Convention Food Protection Team. You can spot health inspectors around the city every day as they conduct regular



inspections of food facilities, rental housing, swimming pools and more in order to keep our community safe.

These are just a few of many examples of City employees delivering quality services to the community. The services offered are as unique and diverse as the people who deliver them. And although every service may not be used by every citizen, we all benefit from the healthy, vibrant community that these services help to create.

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The City of Bloomington complies with all applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs, or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Bloomington services, programs, and activities. The City has designated coordinators to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as mandated by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. For more information, contact the Human Services Division, City of Bloomington, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington, MN 55431-3027; 952-563-8733 (Voice); 952-563-8740 (TTY).

Upon request, this information can be available in Braille, large print, audio tape and/or electronic format.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON BRIEFING, OCTOBER 2009

ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS NEAR COMPLETION

THE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS on 90th Street and Nicollet Avenue, West 84th Street and the 106th Street Bridge are nearly complete and streets are now open to all traffic. Pavement reconstruction, as part of the City’s Pavement Management Plan, is currently underway at West 84th Street and the intersection of 90th Street and Nicollet Avenue. Landscape restoration to these areas, if not completed by the end of the fall, will be finished in spring 2010.

The City appreciates residents’ patience and willingness to use alternative routes as these important safety improvements are made.

For more information on these and other projects, visit www.cityroads.info or call Engineering at 952-563-4870.

To receive e-mail updates about road construction, go to our website, click on E-Subscribe and subscribe to “Road projects.”

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: ROAD CONSTRUCTION.

GETTING AROUND TOWN

TO PARK OR NOT TO PARK REDUCING REDUNDANCY IN PARKING RESTRICTIONS

DO YOU KNOW that over the past 50 years, nearly 30 different parking restrictions have been approved to address parking issues in Bloomington neighborhoods?

In an effort to streamline sign maintenance, reduce future costs and better meet the needs of neighborhoods, the City is working with the Traffic and Transportation Advisory Commission (TTAC) to develop a plan that would apply parking ordinance modifications consistently and update parking ordinances that are no longer viable or are in need of modification.

Parking restrictions recently addressed by the City and TTAC were school area restrictions, prohibiting students from parking on residential streets. The study involved the neighborhoods surrounding Jefferson and Kennedy high schools where parking restrictions were already in place. Based on resident surveys, neighborhood open houses and public hearings, the City Council has approved a new standard restriction: “No Parking, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., Monday - Friday, September - June.” This new standard will reduce confusion, as well as the amount of signage being used in school areas.

Residents living in areas with posted parking restrictions can continue to contact Traffic Engineering at 952-563-4913 to request temporary on-street parking approval for special events or short-term guest parking.

